

Minutes: Thursday, December 9, 2021
Monterey Community Center Committee

Meeting commenced: 10:10 am at the Community Center

Present: Laurie Shaw, Elaine Lynch (via phone), Dennis Lynch, Mary Makuc, Wendy Jensen, Roz Halberstader, Kyle Pierce, JoAnn Bell.

Next Meeting Date: **Thursday, January 13, 2022, 10:00 am at the Community Center**

-Minutes were approved for the November 4, 2021 meeting.

Past Programs:

- American Chestnuts had 19 participants for the 2nd annual program led by Janet Jensen and Rob Hoogs. This was a great program and most walked over to Kevin West's to taste roasted chestnuts from Mark Makuc's 35 year old trees.
- Furniture Refinishing with Frank McGruer was attended, via Zoom, by 12 people. The program lasted about an hour and many found it very informative.
- A presentation by Courtney Morehouse for the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission was held via Zoom about pollutants in Lake Garfield. About 12 people in attendance also had discussions about installing rain gardens.
- Stephanie Sloane's reading had 20 people for Sat. and 19 for Sun. She has a grant from the Cultural Council to put on this presentation.
- Game night only had 4 participants and they are moving the program to 6pm.
- Meditation had 9 present at the CC and 1 person via Zoom. The group is considering moving it to once/week. There was discussion about the cost of this program.
- Wreath making with Katherine Hurst had about 7 in attendance. It is hoped that this can be an annual event but the date may need to be moved.
- Monterey Lights the Holidays was a great success again with over 50 people in attendance. Many thanks to Mark Makuc, Maureen Banner (publicity), Dennis & Elaine Lynch, Joe Baker, Bonner MacAllester, Don & Maggie Barkin and the Cultural Council for all the work. This year there was refreshments, cider and doughnuts which seemed to have people staying longer and chatting with neighbors. A great community program.
- Wellness clinic will be happening today from 2-3pm.
- Tai chi funding did come through from the COA. They will pay \$400 which will be \$100/month for January thru April.
- Yoga at the library is still ongoing.

Upcoming Programs:

- James Boneparth may be an instructor for "Super Gentle Yoga" at the CC for 4 weeks. He would like to offer the class on Friday mornings. There may be a conflict with Matter of Balance so Mary will check with James. There was discussion that students sign a waiver that they understand that James is not a certified yoga instructor.
- Vicky MacDonald could come back in January or February to offer another greeting card making workshop. There is a limit of 10-12 participants in the CC.
- Margaret Buchte will offer a beginning painting workshop starting Saturday, January 8 at 12:45pm. Students must pre-register and the cost is \$5/week. There is a limit of 8 students and they must supply their own paints. Margaret is a local landscape painter.

- Matter of Balance instruction for JoAnn Bell is not going to happen because a deadline was missed for signup.
- A Winterfest is in the works with JoAnn and Roz taking on the organizing. A date of Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022 from 1-3. Ideas were discussed. Some suggestions were sledding, snow sculptures, bonfire, cookies and hot cocoa. Weather will be determining the extent of the offerings. Everyone should check the Swap Shop for sleds that the CC could collect and have on hand.
- Mushroom Program will be considered in the spring, not this winter. Maybe a program could be offered on growing mushrooms indoors or at home.
- Nadia Makuc might be interested in offering a workshop on Aquaponics.
- OLLI: Dennis has the application for OLLI and will follow through with it. He suggested that maybe the application could be made from FWMH. Dennis will discuss with them and report back for our next meeting.
- Monterey's 175th Anniversary is next year. Nadia Makuc is working on it. Some discussion about a parade was made. Anyone interested should talk to Nadia.

Other Business:

- The budget process is upon us. There was much discussion about the need for the tent again this year. The cost of the tent has gone up to \$3960 for 2 months and \$5960 for 3 months. Kyle made a motion to accept the budget as presented. Wendy seconded and the motion was unanimously accepted.
- Everyone on the committee needs to make sure they have taken the Ethics test at Mass.gov and send it to the town clerk.
- Lighting: The RFP (request for proposal) has still not gone out from the town for the town voted monies (May 2021) for lighting for the parking area. This project needs to move forward as the danger of low lighting in the parking lot remains. Melissa Noe and Rob Hoogs are taking charge of getting the RFP out soon..
- Laurie urged all the committee members to go online to the town website and take the survey regarding the use of the funds the town received from the American Rescue Plan Act. She asked them to please indicate using some of the funds for the MCC.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy G. Jensen